11th March 1959]

Members of the Legislature—at least those who are residing in the City of Madras—could be accommodated. We will see whether it would not be possible to send invitations to them though there may be some difficulty in introducing them.

Sri JOHN ASIRVATHAM : May I know why, in the matter of receiving eminent personalities visiting State Capitals, the State Government should look to the Government of India for guidance? Is it not left to the discretion of the State Governments?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : The visitors are representatives of foreign Governments and the Warrant of Precedence with regard to reception to these persons is settled by the Government of India.

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Even in the Warrant of Precedence, how is it that the rank of the Leaders of the Opposition in the Legislature comes next to Members of Parliament? On what basis is it settled?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : That is the settled rank in the Warrant of Precedence. How it is settled is certainly a matter for the Government of India which settle it to consider.

Sri A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : Are all these persons in the list introduced to the personality at the aerodrome?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : Yes. It is always done

Sri M. ETHIRAJALU : மத்திய அரசாங்கத்திலிருந்து அமைச்சர்கள் நமது மாநிலத்திற்கு வரும்போது பல ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு விஜயம் செய்கிறார்கள். அப்பொழுது அந்தந்த ஜில்லாக்களிலிருக்கும் சட்டசபை உறுப்பினர்களுக்குக்கூடத் தெரிவிப்பது இல்லை. இனிமேலாவது தெரிவிப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் வழி செய்யுமா ?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : இங்கே இருக்கும் கேள்விக்கும் கனம் அங்கத்தினர் சொல்வதற்கும் சம்பந்தம் இல்லை.

Sudarsan Oil Mills, Limited, Katpadi

* 120 *Q*.—Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to Legislative Council Question No. 49 answered on 15th November 1957—

(*a*) whether the properties of Sudarsan Oil Mills, Limited, Katpadi, have since been sold; and

(*b*) if so, the amount realized towards the loan granted by the Government?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The distribution of sale proceeds is still in Court.

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Is it not a fact that up to 1957, both towards the main loan which is ten lakhs of rupees and the interest thereon which is somewhere near four lakhs of rupees, only a sum of Rs. 1·21 lakhs has come to the Government of Madras,

[11th March 1959

being the sale proceeds of machinery, and that with regard to the six lakhs of rupees, being the sale value with the Court, already the debenture-holders have addressed the Court to get about four lakhs of rupees?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : He is giving information.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I wish the hon. Member's information were correct. We will not get even four lakhs of rupees as a whole. The figures are as follows : The main amount due to the Government of Madras towards principal is ten lakhs of rupees. Towards interest, five lakhs are due. Penal interest comes to Rs. 90,000. There are a few stray items making a total of Rs. 16·4 lakhs. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 21,525 has been collected and credited towards interest. I would like to say that the machinery was sold in auction for Rs. 6·15 lakhs and that a sum of Rs. 3·26 lakhs was made payable to the debenture-holders. There are a few claims for remuneration put in by the people who worked as Receivers. Out of the balance, the Government have filed an application for payment of a sum of two lakhs of rupees, in the first instance, towards their share.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : In all, the Government of Madras have to incur a loss amounting to nearly ten lakhs of rupees, if not more. May I ask, when such things take place, why no note is taken of the personal liability of the persons who are directors?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The hon. Member was not quite vigilant at that time, when he was in the Assembly.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is a very, very old transaction and we are trying to salvage. There is no use of crying over spilt milk.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : After the sale, how much amount has been actually paid to the debenture-holders and how much will be available to be credited to Government?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I gave figures just now.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Is there any way of recovery of the balance amount due to the Government by proceeding against other properties shown as security towards State loan?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Government never lose hope.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : The Hon. the Minister for Finance just made a remark across the table that the then Members of the Assembly, including me, were not very vigilant. If he only goes through the proceedings, he will find how vigilant we were in the matter and how the Government persisted in saying that they would not lose. Now we see nothing but loss. That apart, the Hon. the Leader of the House, who is also a lawyer, may answer this question. Suppose the State incurs a heavy loss on account of

the action of a Minister or the Cabinet as a whole. Is there anything in law to demand of that Minister or Ministry to pay back the amount to whatever extent the loan becomes a loss?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The matter may be referred to the Advocate-General.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Are there any other properties actually given as security and which could be proceeded against for recovery of the balance?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I want notice.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : With reference to the point I have raised about the liability of Ministers, I want to know whether I have to refer to the Advocate-General or the Ministers will *suo motu* refer it to him and get his opinion?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Government would be thankful if the hon. Member gives some valid legal reason for the Government to proceed in the matter. I think any further money spent on this is a waste. It is good money lost in a wrong way.

Third Five-Year Plan

* 127 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state— 2-40 p.m.

(*a*) whether any steps have been taken to formulate the Third Five-Year Plan for the State; and

(*b*) if so, what they are and the progress made so far?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) & (*b*) The question of the formulation of the Third Five-Year Plan is now engaging the attention of the Planning Commission, the Central Ministries and the State Governments concerned. According to the Planning Commission, work on the preparation of the Third Plan is expected to fall broadly into four stages. The first stage consists of studies of different sets of problems and of different sectors of the economy and how they can be developed in step so as to get certain overall results. When these studies have made sufficient progress, it is proposed to put the results together and prepare a preliminary draft outline or plan-frame for the Third Plan. This will be in about a year from now. After the preliminary draft outline has been approved, detailed preparation of Central and State Plans and of local Plans which will fit into the State Plans, will constitute the Third Stage. This will be completed with the preparation of a fairly full outline of the Plan more or less in its final form. This is expected to take a further year and would be the basis on which the annual plan for the first year of the Third Plan would be drawn up. The fourth stage in the formulation of the Third Plan will be the preparation of its final version for submission to the National Development Council and to the Parliament.